

# BIG \$\$ SURPLUS FOR CITY LOOMS

## Rains Take Light Toll In Torrance

Rain and more rain held the spotlight in Torrance since the last edition of the Press. Even though this area is considered a definite danger spot during floods, the damage was slight compared with other Southern California communities.

Tuesday evening at the City Council meeting—one unanimous opinion was voiced: City Manager Stevens by working in the mud right along with an alert fire and police force and a hard-working street department, deserves full credit for preventing undue hardship in this area.

During the heavy rains, numerous lakes were created in Torrance. Water flooded garages, homes and even school rooms. However, once inventory was taken of the damage, it was small compared with surrounding communities. There were plenty of stalled cars, but a serious crisis was averted.

At the Council meeting, Nick Drale was one of the members of that body to pass out "thanks" to the officials who had worked so efficiently.

"Now is the time to develop a 'Pay as you go' storm drain program," Drale declared.

Drale evidently had in mind the most recent rain figures in the City of Torrance. Since the Press came out, 1.57 inches of rain have been recorded by the Fire Department. On January 18, 1.56 inches poured out of the sky. Two days later, on the 20th, another .01 inches were gauged, making a total of 11.42 inches for the fiscal year which began July 1, 1951.

Weather temperatures for the past week follow:

Date	Low Temp.	High Temp.
Jan. 18	45	57
Jan. 19	40	63
Jan. 20	42	59
Jan. 21	40	60
Jan. 22	38	65

## Chinese Captive Writes

Celebrations hit an all time high in Pueblo, Torrance's own Mexican-American community when Danny Arellano sent a letter to his father from a Chinese prison camp, which arrived this week.

On December 27, the Torrance Press exclusively reported that Arellano was still alive. In August of 1949 he was one of the first Torrance boys reported as "missing in action." At that time the Press contacted his mother, Josephina Gutierrez and one of his sisters, Mrs. Virginia Ortega, 24.

In all Danny has a lot of relatives in Torrance, four sisters, a brother, four nieces, and three nephews, besides his parents.

**LETTER SENT**  
The letter Danny sent came through the War Department from the Chinese Peoples Committee for World Peace in Peking, China. Here is the letter that the 20-year-old soldier sent to his father, Angel Arellano:  
Dec. 24, 1951

Dear Family:  
"Well here it is Xmas Eve again. I thought I would be home, but I guess I was wrong. Maybe I'll be home next Xmas"  
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## Queen Contest Taken Over by Youth Band

The Torrance Area Youth Band made final plans this week for their annual fund raising drive to be staged in late April and early May, according to William E. Bowen, president of the youth organization.

A queen contest to select Miss Torrance of 1952 has been added to this year's schedule of events. The queen contest, formerly staged by the Torrance Junior Woman's Club and now in the hands of the Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce, was offered to the youth band by the Jaycees to aid them in their fund raising campaign.

The annual baton twirling contest, parade, and band concert, which have become a tradition in Torrance, will take place during the last two days of the drive.

All profits realized from the  
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## Reelection Disclosed By Selover

Re-election to the Board of Directors of the Harbor Area Employers' Council of 15 members has been announced by Frank S. Selover, executive secretary of the Council.

Directors re-elected are: Louis Arbetter, Allen Jewelers, Torrance; J. N. Blake, Robertson & Blake Hardware, Gardena; H. M. Carr, San Pedro; W. O. Clausing, Clausing Bros., Wilmington; Clyde Dunlap Jr., Dunlap's Department Stores; J. A. Eichhorn, Floyd Stationery Co., San Pedro; Harold L. Hall, Hall's 5 & 10 Cent Store, Lomita; K. V. Harrison, Gardena; J. W. Jensen, Better Food Markets; Chas. V. Jones, Torrance Hardware; Sam Levy, Sam Levy Department Store, Torrance; A. J. Moe Pharmacy, San Pedro; Frank R. Moore, San Pedro; C. L. Prow, J. J. Newberry Co.; T. K. Ware, Gardena.

### HOLDOVERS

Holdover directors are A. J. McCown, Council president, McCown Drug Stores Inc.; H. W. Smith, Council vice president, A-1 Photo Service Inc.; J. C. Caldwell, department store, Wilmington; Paul Diamond, the Gay Shop, Torrance, and E. W. Spear, Spear's Store for Men, Wilmington.

The Harbor Area Employers' Council has entered its fourth year of activity, Selover said. During 1951, there were 2479 instances of service in behalf of the nearly 300 members of the Council, he said. These were in addition to the Council's work in negotiation of labor contracts, he pointed out. In 1951, the Council negotiated directly or participated in the negotiations of 15 wage hour agreements with seven labor unions. Employer representatives work with John T. Binkley, council, and the executive secretary, Selover said. He reported that members of the Council employ from 90 to 94 percent of the employees involved in the various labor contracts which the Council negotiates.

Now in process of negotiation is the Merchantile Agreement with Retail Clerks Local No. 905 to become effective February 1.  
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C. J. "PADDY" RYAN (at the far right) accepts the president's gavel from W. E. Bowen (at the far left) at the annual installation dinner of the Torrance Lomita Realty Board, held at the First Christian Church last week. Looking on in the center is newly-installed Vice-President Gerald (Jerry) Alter. Bowen, as outgoing president, served as master of ceremonies. The event took place in the church dining room. On the same occasion Ryan released the organization's new committees for 1952. —Title Insurance photo

## Special Census Now Underway

Preliminary steps have been started for the taking of Special Census for the City of Torrance. Kenneth G. Spiker of the Bureau of Census established his office at the Civil Defense Building, located at 1754 Torrance Boulevard Wednesday.

His first action is the selection of local workers for the job of census taking. Following the selection of personnel, a training period will be held before actual work on the census is started, City Manager George Stevens revealed today.

The census is being made to determine whether the present population of Torrance is above the 30,000 mark.

As a result of the Special Census, the City may benefit  
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## Ryan Installed at Realtor Gathering

The installation of officers last week marked the beginning of the fourteenth year of activity for the Torrance-Lomita Realty Board.

The installation was preceded by the annual ceremonial dinner, this year served in the dining room of the First Christian Church of Torrance.

## Executive Secretary Still Open

William Zoeller, in charge of the executive secretary screening committee for the Chamber of Commerce, disclosed today that ten names are under consideration for the position at the present time.

"We expect several additional applications before we pick the man," Zoeller said.

He pointed out that it would be unfair to release names of the men under consideration.

"For one thing," said Zoeller, "several have indicated that they would accept the job if it was offered to them but for business reasons are not in a position to put in an official application."

Zoeller emphasized that due to the importance of the position, he will not permit anyone rushing his committee before it is ready to report.

Under W. E. Bowen, master of ceremonies, Director, California Real Estate Association, C. J. "Paddy" Ryan received the president's gavel for the second consecutive year. Gerald L. Alter, succeeding Harry B. Bowker, was installed as vice-president, and Perry L. Connett was retained for a second year as secretary-treasurer.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Howard J. Percy, Elmer H. Epperson, Harry B. Bowker, and Gretchen M. Earle comprise the Board of Directors for 1952.

Among the outstanding guests and members introduced by Bowen were Mrs. C. J. Ryan, first lady of the board, Tom O'Connell and Stephen Birch, representatives of the Title Insurance and Trust Company, Miss Joan Piers, escrow clerk of the California Bank of Lomita, and Mrs. Grace C. Hinshaw, multiple listing secretary.

Ryan delivered an address on the organization's achievements of the past year. He revealed that the Torrance-Lomita Realty Board received this past year its  
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## DARBY SEEKS OFFICE

County Supervisor Raymond V. Darby this week announced that he would be a candidate for reelection in the fourth supervisorial district at the June primary election.

Announcement was made Jan. 16 at the Inglewood Country Club during a breakfast attended by 200 Inglewood businessmen and civic leaders to honor Darby.

Darby, a resident of Inglewood, has served two four year terms as county supervisor. He began his public life in 1927 when he was elected to the Inglewood City Council. After four years as councilman, he served 14 years as Mayor of Inglewood.

During his terms as county supervisor he has served twice as chairman of the county board.

## Columbia Still Idle

Columbia Steel's work stoppage, affecting 1100 employees at the Torrance plant, today appeared to be spreading as 3600 workers at the Pittsburg, California plant, walked out of the Northern Steel mill for a 24 hour continuous meeting.

At the time of the walkout at Pittsburg, management learned about the stoppage through a handbill, according to Frank Burns, Public Relations Director, of United States Steel.

Earlier in the week, union officials of Local 1414 at the Columbia plant revealed that 10 employees had signed a petition demanding that a secret ballot be conducted as to whether the workers should return to their jobs.

### CHANGE VIEWS

However, Union President Victor Teers, said that the ten employees in a body, got up at the meeting just before the voting was to start and demanded that  
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## Previous Years Income Shades

Revenue figures from the City Hall testify to the fact that the City of Torrance has a larger fund surplus at the end of this year than that for the year ended July 31, 1951.

Total revenue received by the City for the first six months of the fiscal year 1951-52 amounted to \$529,903.76, according to figures from the City Hall.

This amount exceeds the total revenue for the first six months of the previous fiscal year by \$221,331.66, the revenue figure for the first half of 1950-51 being \$307,571.90.

The City of Torrance had a fund balance on June 30, 1951 from the previous fiscal year of \$338,986.29.

June expenditures were chargeable against that figure, amounting to \$232,679.71. However, receipts for July amounting to \$138,222.66 brought the fund balance to \$244,529.24 on July 31, 1951.

Revenue reported by City Clerk A. H. Bartlett for the first six months of the two years is as follows:

	1951-52	1950-51
General Fund	\$378,957.16	\$211,706.08
Motor Vehicle	27,985.75	12,698.18
Airport	4,432.43	3,042.94
State Aid	34,635.79	18,400.00
County Aid	21,055.00	33,296.90
All Other Revenue	62,737.63	29,057.90
Totals	\$529,903.76	\$307,571.90

Sales tax revenue included in the general fund amounts to \$29,309.23 for the first six months of 1951-52 against \$26,942.33 for the same period of last year.

The general property tax levy has brought in \$284,158.65 for the first six months of 1951-52 against \$114,475.81 of last year.

The city is operating on a budget of \$872,402. While the disbursement figures are not available, it is assumed that half of this amount has been spent in the first six months, or about \$436,200. This means a surplus of nearly \$100,000 already has been accumulated in addition to the balance left over from last year.

He pointed out that the original specifications required four million dollars in financial assets. Under the rebid, specifications were raised to five million dollars.

"Farmers have a financial rating of four million-four hundred and ten thousand, according to Best's Insurance Guide for 1951, the latest book on the subject.

## Mock Given Position As Bus Supervisor

New school bus supervisor John E. Mock steps into his job, February 1. Mock was selected from a group of 16 candidates to fill this newly-created school service position. He was formerly an employee of the Torrance Bus Department. His salary is \$300 per month, seven dollars less than he received in his city job.

Need for the position was felt by the board after a large parental delegation came to the School Administrative meeting room and bitterly complained that transportation had been cut off to youngsters in hazardous areas.

**BOARD DISAGREES**  
At first, the Board disagreed with the attitude of the parents and quoted the State law in self-defense. However, after making a further study, Board members recognized that conditions in Torrance complicated the school bus transportation picture.

As a result, assistant superintendent of schools Emmett Ingram suggested that a bus supervisor be hired. The Board endorsed this recommendation un-animously.

Mock's duties as bus supervisor will entail countless studies to find out how bus transportation can be improved in  
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## YWCA Receives \$100 Check at Women's Affair

Presentation of a \$100 check to the YWCA for furnishing its new building was made by the Business and Professional Women's Club of Torrance, at a dinner meeting held at Browsers Restaurant in Long Beach.

Mrs. Arthur Solomon accepted the check for the YWCA. Money collected for the YWCA donation was made by selling papers and various other activities, club president Zada Ramsey, revealed.

Miss Ramsey said that Ruth Robinson acted as finance chairman for the fund-raising campaign.

Main speaker at the dinner meeting was past state president Lily Hawkinson. She was a delegate to the international conference held in London last year. Her talk explained how  
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**BROKEN WINDOW EXPLAINED** — Game hunters created a mystery for harbor area police officers when they were forced to abandon their auto because of mechanical trouble and officers observed a broken window and bloodstained upholstery. Faulty aim of a hunter accounted for the hole in the glass, Officers R. L. Wonders was told. Bloodstains were from gamebirds shot by hunters, it was explained.

### For the Birds?

## Police Solve Mystery Of Car's Bullet Hole

Police Monday solved the mystery of a bloody car with a bullet hole in the window and found that the answer was "for the birds."

The auto, found parked in front of 1434 W. 219th street in the Shoestring district here Saturday night, was impounded after officers noted a bullet hole in the right window and blood stains on the upholstery and floor.

Suspecting that it had been stolen and used in a murder or holdup, they began checking with jurisdictions throughout the area. All the possibilities came up blank and they couldn't locate the registered owner, Walter Phillips, 18, 2436 W. Lomita Blvd., Lomita.

Then today, young Phillips

came to the detective bureau to claim his auto and explain the circumstances.

The bullet hole had been caused by a stray bullet while he was hunting and the blood was from birds bagged by Phillips and his friends. He had left it here when it developed mechanical trouble.

Police released his car to him and marked their mystery solved.



**THE BURLY YOUNG MEN** shown tripping the light fantastic in gay plaid kilts are Joe Lafferty, left, and Beryl Jones, right. Their knees will be showing tonight and tomorrow night in the 1952 edition of Torrance High "Varieties", on stage in the high school auditorium. Tickets are still available at 50c for general admission and 75c for reserved seats. Better hurry and get your tickets—Joe and Beryl are liable to catch pneumonia any minute.

# Torrance High Variety Show Opens Tonight!